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DISASTER NEWS

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DISASTER RECOVERY CENTER TO CLOSE IN MACOMB COUNTY

East Lansing, MI –The Macomb County Disaster Recovery Center in Romeo, Michigan will close at 6 p.m. Saturday, July 24th, federal and state officials announced today. The center will be in operation until that time in the Amanda Moore Elementary School, 209 Dickenson Street in Romeo, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily to provide assistance to disaster victims from the May 20-24 storms.

Those who have applied for assistance and have questions about the status of their applications, low-interest disaster loans or ways to reduce damage in future severe weather can visit a Disaster Recovery Center or call the FEMA helpline – **1-800-621-FEMA or TTY 1-800-462-7585.**Operators at the FEMA toll-free number are available from 8.a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday to take disaster assistance applications and to help answer assistance-related questions. August 30 is the deadline to apply for assistance by calling the FEMA toll-free number.

Following the close of the Macomb County center on Saturday, people can visit the most convenient of 5 remaining centers. Other Disaster Recovery Center locations include: Dearborn Heights at the Fire Department Headquarters in the City of Dearborn Heights Building at 1999 N. Beech Daly; at the Detroit City Airport, 11499 Conner Street; in Plainfield Township (Grand Rapids) at the Plainfield Fire Station Headquarters at 4383 Plainfield Avenue, NE; in Burton at the City of Burton Police and Fire Administration Building at 4090 Manor Drive; and, in Lansing in the new Lansing Fire Station #4 at 1435 E. Miller Road.

All centers are open Monday – Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Burton and Lansing centers will also be open those same hours on Sunday, July 25.

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On March 1, 2003, FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. FEMA's continuing mission within the new department is to lead the effort to prepare the nation for all hazards and effectively manage federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates proactive mitigation activities, trains first responders, and manages Citizen Corps, the National Flood Insurance Program and the U.S. Fire Administration.